



## SWARC NEWS-8/23

### Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

Presently, I am serving as the Net Manager until someone volunteers to take it over from me. We are always looking for backup net controllers. If you are interested, please let me know. Currently, the Membership Director position is vacant and we need someone to take the mantle from Steve (WB4SMS).

In our radio room, there is a 1.5 kw tuner and an oscilloscope or other troubleshooting equipment that we should dispose of to make room in a cabinet that can be repurposed for other use. If you are interested in either piece of equipment or could suggest a value to be placed on them for sale at local swapfests, please reach out to me.

**Our annual dues year expired on 30 June 2023, so it's time to renew. Except for those who joined during RARSfest, or during one of the last two months, everyone else will need to submit payment of \$30 per member with additional \$5 per family member as soon as possible. There are a lot of folks on our email list that have not renewed in some time. We ask that you send an email to [info@southwakearc.com](mailto:info@southwakearc.com) stating your intentions/desires, e.g., are you renewing or wish to be dropped. Regrettably, those unpaid by 1 September will be dropped.**

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Velda, K4VJC, Mike, KD4MC, and Steve, KA0GMY.



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Steve, KA0GMY, continues to have health issues, so remember him, Steve Jr., and Miss Gloria as well (particularly).

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, still has challenging times ahead, with a new throat scan in early September. He hopes to get back on the radio soon with limited talking as this produces secretions from his tracheotomy that make breathing difficult. So, if you hear him on the air, don't expect a long QSO, but give him a shout!

Velda, K4VJC, and Mike, KD4MC, have returned from Virginia (after almost a year) to their residence. Velda still has many challenges ahead so reach out to Mike and see how you can help in any way. Prayer is always appreciated.

Kenny, KJ4CVK, is well for now, but he needs our prayers and support anyway. I believe he is on a short hiatus to Georgia for a visit and R&R.

Bernie (N4BAJ) noted that member John Paul Keon (AB4PP) was home from the hospital recovering from recent prostate surgery. Get well soon, JP.

Member Mark Perkins (NC4MP), one of our net controllers, recently lost his mother and the club will make a donation to a charity listed in her obituary, as is our custom.

SWARC de KO4ZFO



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## Notes from WB4SMS (Steve)

Another month has come and gone. I was recently in our radio room and noticed that the air was very musty and damp. I added a DampRid container to help remove some of the moisture from the room. Do we have anyone that knows AC units? I'd like to have the unit looked at in the radio room as I don't feel it is operating properly as it should not allow the moisture to get that high. We all know excess moisture isn't good for any of the equipment in there. I'm stopping in a couple times a week to check the DampRid container and empty it out until we can get it looked at.

SWARC de WB4SMS

## SWARC 2 August 2023 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was well attended and there was plenty of food so that no one left hungry unless it was their own fault. LOL!

The meeting began at 7:00 pm and was conducted by Rodney (KO4ZFO), President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bernie (N4BAJ). Introductions were made around the room—no visitors this evening except the guest speaker.

Those in attendance were:

Richard Hall (K7RLH), Bill Blomgren (KK4QDZ), Al Crawford (WA4TCJ), Linda Crawford (KI4LO), Rich Gehle (N4DPQ), Brian Knox (KK4BK), Dave Krum (NW3U), Steve Suzanne (WB4SMS), Ken Castille (KN4GUS), Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), Paul Nicholson (KN4NGI), Matt Price (KE4NIP),



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Gator (K4MWG), Steve Worth (NC4SW), Robert Walker (KQ4GSA), Christy Fernandini (KJ4AEO), Gino Fernandini (KI4YXO), Ed Castle (N1WMM), and Karen Castle (KB1IEP).

## **Old/Unfinished Business**

The winners of the Field Day Raffle Drawing, Linda Crawford (KI4LO) and Matt Price (KE4NIP) received the gift cards with amounts they specified.

## **New Business**

Mike Gaither (Gator) (K4MWG) moved that we make a donation of \$250 to the Legion Post 116, for their general use, since we are not paying rent for use of Bldg 2 for meetings or for test sessions executed by CenCar VE Team, sponsored by SWARC. The motion was seconded and passed. Christy wrote out a check and Gator delivered to Post leadership who were appreciative.

## **Program/Presentation**

Dave Krum (NW3U) introduced Kenn Kubacki (NE4Y) who was present to make a presentation on Public Service opportunities and how 'hams' can participate in local events. His presentation was informative and demonstrated that you don't need a lot of fancy equipment to help out. What you need is a desire to help within your own physical limitations and availability. Most of the events supported are bicycle rides of varying distances, most are on weekends and generally avoid holidays.



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## Public Service

Dave Krum (NW3U) reminded us to check the website link below for updates on events in the local area.

*Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is upon us and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS website.*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini's report showed an increase in the finances during July. Balance of \$2,422.66 with no obligated funds or invoices outstanding. Income from dues and a member donation totaled \$405 and expenses of \$371.85 included purchase of the gift cards and a bank fee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm although members hung around to chat with each other and ask questions of Kenn (NE4Y), our speaker.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Hall K7RLH  
Secretary



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## MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew somewhat online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is [christyfernandini@outlook.com](mailto:christyfernandini@outlook.com). Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

## NET REPORT

SWARC Group – July 2023

There were three hams who were net check-in champs for July; they are Bill, KK4QDZ, Al, WA4TCJ, and Al, WA3JJG—Richard, K7RLH, was finally deposed. The monthly total of check-ins was 249—50% increase from last month! Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could actually be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH
- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KA0GMY will call Tuesday evenings (backup is K7RLH)
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KO4ZFO or a board member will call Thursday evenings



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- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.

Please contact Rodney Warren, KO4ZFO, if you are interested in calling one or more nets.

## SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

## LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

### **PRN**

**A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network**

[www.ncprn.net](http://www.ncprn.net)

### **GigaParts**

[www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)

### **QRZ**

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

### **Ham Radio Outlet HRO**

[www.hamradio.com](http://www.hamradio.com)



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**Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS**

[www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)

**Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS**

[www.jars..net](http://www.jars..net)

**South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC**

[www.southwakearc.com](http://www.southwakearc.com)

**Carolina 440 Network**

[www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net)

**North Carolina Packet**

[www.ncpacket.com](http://www.ncpacket.com)

**TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)**

[www.tarpn.net](http://www.tarpn.net)

**Useful Ham Info**

[www.torborg.com/a](http://www.torborg.com/a)

**Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts**

[www.fivecountyhre.org](http://www.fivecountyhre.org)

## ARRL News

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### ARRL Podcasts

#### On the Air

Sponsored by [Icom](http://icom.com)

Passing traffic is a ham radio activity that's nearly as old as ham radio itself, and getting accurate messages to their destination in a timely manner takes training and skill. In addition to participating in nets, hams also have the opportunity to take on ARRL Field Organization positions that are responsible for traffic. In this episode, "When Messages Matter: Passing Traffic," we talk to Ethan Hansen, KC1OIP, who fulfills one such position, Official Relay Station, in ARRL's National Traffic System. Listen in to learn about what it takes to become an Official Relay Station, how the position makes a difference in the community, and how it benefits your amateur radio skills and experience.





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## ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast is available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android). The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are also on blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#).



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## Announcements

**Planning is underway for the 2023 Route 66 On the Air Special Event on September 9 - 17.** This will be the 24th year of the event has been running. It was started by the Northern Arizona DX Association (NADXA) and is now coordinated by the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club (CBARC) in San Bernardino, California. Twenty-one special event stations along the route from Santa Monica, California, to Chicago, Illinois, are expected to participate in 9 days of operating opportunities. The special event celebrates the history of the Mother Road that began in 1926, when US Highway 66 was established. It was the first major improvement to the link between the west coast and the nation's heartland. Through stories, songs, and TV shows, the highway came to symbolize the freedom of the open road, inspiring many to see America in its entirety. The demise of Route 66 began in the 1950s, as construction began on the new interstate highway system. US Route 66 was officially decommissioned in 1986, but today, small portions of the highway still exist in several states. More information on the event will be available soon at the [Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club \(CBARC\)](#) website or on their [Facebook](#) page.

## Announcements

**NASA has announced the earliest targeted launch date of Tuesday, August 15, for their seventh rotational mission of sending a SpaceX Dragon crew spacecraft and Falcon 9 rocket to the International Space Station.** The launch of Dragon, named Endurance, will take place from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Center in Florida and will carry NASA astronaut and mission commander Jasmin Moghbeli, KI5WSL, and European Space Agency astronaut and pilot Andreas Mogensen, KG5GCZ. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Satoshi Furukawa and Roscosmos cosmonaut Konstantin Borisov will also be on-board as mission specialists. This is the first spaceflight for Moghbeli and Borisov, and it is Mogensen and Furukawa's second flight. Following a handover period, crew members from [NASA's SpaceX Crew-6 mission](#) are scheduled to return to Earth aboard their SpaceX Dragon spacecraft



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named Endeavour. For launch coverage and more information about the mission, visit <https://www.nasa.gov/commercialcrew> .

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## In Brief...

**On July 28, 2023, members of the [Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society \(RNARS\)](#) commemorated 30 years of being located on the HMS Collingwood.** The RNARS was founded in 1960, and moved to HMS Collingwood when the HMS Mercury was decommissioned. The outgoing captain, now Commodore Paul Sutermeister RN, was instrumental in finding a new home for the RNARS. The Headquarters Shack in HMS Collingwood has a selection of transceivers that operate across the radio spectrum via range of antennas. These allow members to communicate with other radio amateurs around the world, including by amateur radio satellite. While the majority of RNARS members are actively serving or are service veterans, there are other groups who qualify for membership, such as merchant navy and Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel and several others with occupations and interests in maritime affairs. While some of the members have aviation and marine licenses, they are a friendly mixture of professional and amateur radio users, with links to both the Royal Air Force and Royal Signals Amateur Radio societies: - all are affiliate members of the [Radio Society of Great Britain \(RSGB\)](#).

**[ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® is on Threads, the new social media platform from Meta.](#)** Connect with your association via our handle [@arrlhq](#). Find all of our social channels and ways to connect at [www.arrl.org/arrl-social-media](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-social-media)

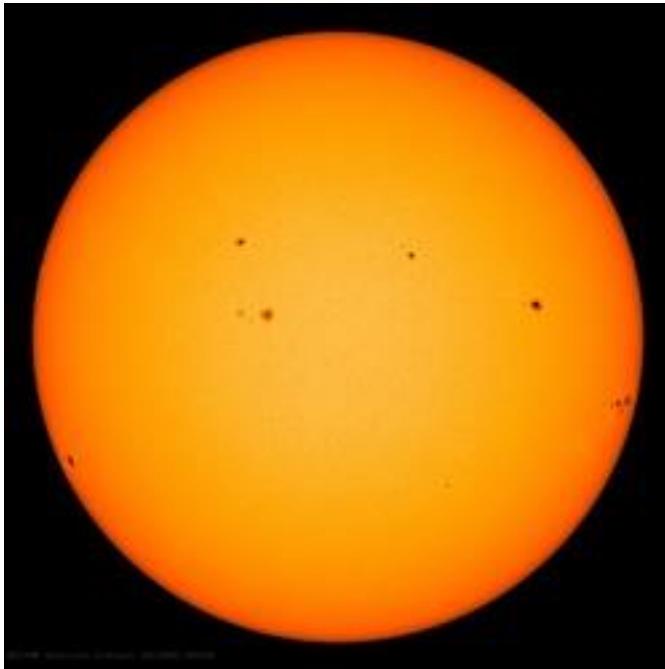
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## The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, reports for this week's ARRL Propagation Bulletin, ARLP031:



Solar disk image taken August 3, 2023, courtesy of NASA SDO/HMI.

The Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning at 0233 UTC on August 3, 2023:

"Two recent coronal mass ejections (CMEs) are expected to impact Earth on UT day 05-Aug, with the second possibly arriving early 06-Aug. G0-G1 geomagnetic conditions may be expected on 05-Aug, with a chance for isolated periods of G2 towards the end of the UT day on 05-Aug. Geomagnetic storm conditions may persist over 06-Aug."

Solar activity was up during this reporting week, July 27 through August 2.

Average daily sunspot numbers increased from 128.1 to 154.3, but the average daily solar flux was about the same as last week, moving from 172.2 to 173.



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Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, with the average daily planetary A index shifting from 11 to 8.3, while middle latitude numbers went from 11.1 to 9.3.

Predicted solar flux is 170 and 165 on August 3 - 4; 160 on August 5 - 7; 155, 145, and 168 on August 8 - 10; 168 on August 11 - 12; 170 on August 13 - 16; 172 on August 17 - 18; 170 and 168 on August 19 - 20; 170 on August 21 - 22; 172 on August 23; 170 on August 24 - 27, and 165 on August 28 - 31.

Predicted planetary A index is 10, 20, 28, 15, and 8 on August 3 - 7; 5, 5, and 10 on August 8 - 10; 8 on August 11 - 12; 5 on August 13 - 25; 12 and 10 on August 26 - 27, and 5 on August 28 - 31.

ARRL published an excellent new book, *Here to There: Radio Wave Propagation*, written by a team of experts, including Frank Donovan, W3LPL; Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, and Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA. It's a great reference on all aspects of HF and VHF propagation and it includes a survey of the various propagation prediction computer programs.

Sunspot numbers for July 27 through August 2 were 154, 148, 147, 139, 197, 160, and 135, with a mean of 154.3. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 165.3, 168.2, 178.6, 174.4, 177.1, 174.7, and 172.9, with a mean of 173. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 6, 9, 9, 6, 9, and 12, with a mean of 8.3. Middle latitude A index was 7, 5, 8, 18, 8, 9, and 10, with a mean of 9.3.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to [k7ra@arrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrl.net).

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...," and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

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Just Ahead in Radiosport



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Yearlong -- [ARRL Volunteers On the Air](#) (VOTA). See the State Activations Schedule for weekly [W1AW Portable Operations](#), including:

- August 9 - August 15 -- New Jersey W1AW/2

## Upcoming Contests:

- August 9 -- NAQCC CW Sprint (CW)
- August 9 -- VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest (FT8)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.



## Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- August 11 - 13 | [2023 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention](#), Albuquerque, New Mexico
- August 19 - 20 | [Huntsville Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Alabama State Convention, Huntsville, Alabama
- August 25 - 27 | [Northeast HamXposition](#), hosting the ARRL New England Division Convention, Marlborough, Massachusetts
- September 1 - 3 | [Shelby Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL North Carolina Section Convention, Shelby, North Carolina
- September 10 | [ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Convention and Hamfest](#), Mullica Hill, New Jersey
- September 22 - 23 | [HRO Superfest](#), hosting the ARRL Wisconsin State Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- September 23 | [Red River Radio Amateur's 2023 Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota
- September 23 | [Spokane HAMFEST](#), sponsoring the ARRL Washington State Convention, Spokane Valley, Washington
- October 6 - 7 | [Slidell EOC Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Louisiana State Convention, Slidell, Louisiana
- October 7 | [Wichita Area and Kansas State Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Kansas State Convention, Wichita, Kansas



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- October 7 | [71st Rock Hill Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL South Carolina Section Convention, Rock Hill, South Carolina
- October 8 | [Nutmeg Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Connecticut State Convention, North Haven, Connecticut
- October 13 - 14 | [Melbourne Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Florida State Convention, Melbourne, Florida
- October 14 | [ARRL Minnesota State Convention](#), Richfield, Minnesota
- October 20 - 22 | [Pacificon](#), hosting the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

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## Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for the ARRL Letter and ARRL News can be sent to [news@arrl.org](mailto:news@arrl.org). -- *John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, ARRL News Editor*

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- Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.
- *The ARRL Letter* is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

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- [NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- [QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

## Free of charge to ARRL members...

- [Subscribe](#) to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update*(biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts, and much more!
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